

# MINUTES

## Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2022

7:30 PM - Town Hall

First Selectman George R. Temple called the meeting to order at 7:33 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: First Selectman George R. Temple, Selectman Arnold Jensen, Selectman David McKane and Administrative Assitant Kristyn Rosa.

### ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

#### 1. 11/2/22 Regular Meeting

##### MOTION:

Selectman David McKane moved to approve the 11/2/22 Regular Meeting minutes as presented with the following changes listed in the discussion below. This was seconded by Selectman Arnold Jensen. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

Discussion: Selectman David McKane stated that the motion under new business, item #1, should read that Selectman Arnold Jensen opposed the motion, not Selectman David McKane.

#### 2. 11/7/22 Special Joint Meeting

##### MOTION:

Selectman David McKane moved to approve the 11/7/22 Special Joint Meeting minutes as presented with the following changes listed in the discussion below. This was seconded by First Selectman Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

Discussion: Selectman David McKane stated that the first sentence of the second page of the 11/07/22 Special Joint Meeting minutes references David Jensen stating he supports the purchase. Selectman Arnold Jensen confirmed that he was the one that stated that; therefore, the discussion should read Selectman Arnold Jensen stating he supports the purchase.

### 3. 11/9/22 Special Meeting

#### MOTION:

Selectman David McKane moved to approve the 11/9/22 Special Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Selectman Arnold Jensen. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

#### AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

First Selectman Temple made a motion to amend the agenda to send the purchase of the new Rescue fire truck to a Town Meeting as item #4, and the Report of the First Selectman will be moved to item #5. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

#### APPOINTMENTS

##### 1. Oxford Center Volunteer Fire Company 2023 Chief Re-Appointment

#### MOTION:

Selectman David McKane moved to re-appoint Scott Pelletier as the Oxford Center Volunteer Fire Company's 2023 Chief, as presented and recommended in their letter dated 10/11/22. This was seconded by Selectman Arnold Jensen. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

##### 2. Oxford Housing Authority Appointment

#### MOTION:

Selectman David McKane moved to re-appoint Kathleen O'Connell to the Oxford Housing Authority with a term to commence on 1/1/23 and expire on 12/31/27, as she requested in her letter dated 10/19/22. This was seconded by Selectman Arnold Jensen. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

Discussion: First Selectman Temple stated that finding volunteers for this board is hard. They meet during the day at Crestview Housing. There is one vacancy available, so if anyone knows of a person who would be interested, please contact the First Selectman's Office.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Hire Public Work's Utility Man Positions**

#### **MOTION:**

Selectman David McKane moved to hire Matthew Hedge as a Public Work's Utility Employee at a pay rate of \$26.18 per hour, as in accordance with Section 21 (B) of the current Teamsters Contract, and a start date of Monday, December 5, 2022. This was seconded by Selectman Arnold Jensen. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

#### **Discussion:**

Selectman Temple stated that Selectman David McKane attended the interviews and asked his opinion. Selectman David McKane said that he scored well and he is experienced having worked with the Milford Public Works. Selectman Jensen asked if Wayne Watt, Public Works Director was in agreement with this, and it was explained to Selectman Jensen that Wayne was part of the interview process and did support this hire. First Selectman Temple stated that Matthew is a firefighter, and so are a few of the other public works employees; when a call comes in, it could leave Public Works short-staffed, but First Selectman Temple is confident that our newly re-appointed Fire Chief and our Public Works Director will work together to ensure both fire and public works are adequately staffed during emergencies.

### **2. Hire Youth Conservation Corp Member**

#### **MOTION:**

Selectman David McKane moved to hire Nevis Volpe as a Youth Conservation Corp Member at a pay rate of \$14.00 per hour and a start date of Wednesday, November 16, 2022, as presented and recommended by the YCC Supervisor in his letter dated 11/10/22. This was seconded by Selectman Arnold Jensen. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

#### **Discussion:**

First Selectman Temple stated that he is confident that if Joe Lanier recommended her, that would be good enough for him. Nevis is Scott Volpe's daughter, and Scott is a contractor; therefore, she must have some knowledge of construction. Selectman Jensen was surprised that they are hiring a student now, going into winter. First Selectman Temple explained that they hire once the required volunteer 50 hours are completed. They work right through until heavy snowfall and then again in early spring. Selectman McKane stated that this was the best bargain in Town. The students are great and do a good job!

3. Tax Refunds

MOTION:

Selectman David McKane moved to approve the tax refunds, totaling \$7,499.97, as presented and recommended by the Tax Collector in her letter dated 11/14/22, and to authorize two signatures. This was seconded by Selectman Arnold Jensen. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

Discussion: All Selectmen agreed that they reviewed and understood the transfers and had no questions or concerns.

4. New Fire Rescue Truck

MOTION:

First Selectman Temple moved to send the approval of the Rescue fire truck in the amount of \$1,793,500.00 to a Town Meeting to approve the funding to be paid by a lease agreement. Selectman Arnold Jensen seconded this. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

Discussion: Selectman McKane said we must do this the most prudent way possible. Selectman Jensen stated the he remembers conversation about how a floating a bond would be too expensive. We should finance it. First Selectman Temple agreed, because the other truck we are currently financing will be coming off. This truck will take its place. The ARPA funds cannot be approved by anyone but the Board of Selectman and he doesnt want to pull the rug out from under the ARPA fund committee. This would be a slap in the face to the committee if it was attempted without consulting with them. Selectman McKane stated that if we used the ARPA funds for this truck it would burn out at least half of the funds. He doesnt feel the ARPA fund should be used for this project. Selectman Jensen agreed and stated that he feels a lease agreement for funding this vehicle is a wise way to go.

5. Report of First Selectman

First Selectman Temple mentioned that we do have one more position available at our Public Works Department. Our Animal Control Officer, Jason McClain who has his CDL is interested in the position. He is a great employee and is doing a great job and has a good work ethic. He is interested in the position at Public Works but will also stay on as needed, since he would like to keep his Animal Control license. First

Selectman Temple stated that he would like the Selectman to know and doesn't want anyone to think I am doing this under the table. I would like everyone to know what I would like to do. He stated that he spoke to another Certified Animal Control Officer who is anxious to come to Oxford to take Jason's place. I think its a great avenue to hire from within. We did the same with Public Works's Utility Man, Kyle Sastrum and he is an important worker there. It has worked out great. Kyle is doing well there. This will be up to the full board, but I wanted to approach the subject with them tonight.

Selectman Jensen asked for budget updates to be placed on the agenda, but it was removed because First Selectman Temple explained that it could make for a very long meeting. A lot of the expenditures have already happened but at this point it may look like a false under or false over. He said that if anyone has budget questions they can meet with Jim Hliva .

The Park and Recreation Christmas Tree lighting is on Friday December 2 at 6:00 p.m. at the Oxford Town Hall. Hope to see everyone there!

**AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS** none.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

#### **MOTION:**

Selectman David McKane moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM. This was seconded by Selectman Arnold Jensen. Motion carries. All 3 Ayes

Respectfully Submitted,

*Kristyn Rosa*

22 NOV 19 AM 8:00  
TOWN OF OXFORD, CT  
TOWN CLERK  
*David McKane*